

## From Drips to Tsunamis: Planning for Disasters in Your Library

### *Panel Discussion*

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#### **Abstract**

Disasters strike every area of any country and affect libraries, large or small. From a water leak to something big like an earthquake, hurricane or fire, libraries need to have a plan of action for an effective response. Our panel discussion included librarians who have survived disasters along with others who live in potentially hazardous areas. We discussed disaster plans from a number of institutions of different sizes, collections and budgets as well as providing some best practices and resources for creating or updating your own plan.

**Keywords:** Disaster planning, libraries, best practices.

*Below is a copy of the handout of resources that the panel put together.*

- American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works. *Publications and Resources: Disaster Response and Recovery*. <http://www.conservation-us.org/resources/disaster-response-recovery#.W6slcxNKjMU>
- American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works. *Emergency Response and Salvage Wheel*. <http://store.conservation-us.org/site/index.php?app=ecom&ns=prodshow&ref=FAIC-1>
- Community Emergency Response Team. <https://www.ready.gov/community-emergency-response-team>
  - Training materials in English and Spanish are at the bottom of the page.
  - Many countries have similar established programs. Search for your country and “emergency response training”
- Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries of Illinois. *Supplies and Tools for Library Disaster Response*. <https://www.carli.illinois.edu/products-services/collections-management/supplies-tools>
- Michigan State University Libraries. *Disaster Recovery For Collections*. 6th Edition. [https://lib.msu.edu/sites/default/files/media/browser/MSU\\_Disaster\\_Manual\\_PUBLIC.pdf](https://lib.msu.edu/sites/default/files/media/browser/MSU_Disaster_Manual_PUBLIC.pdf)
- Page, Julie. *Guidelines for Establishing Salvage Priorities*. <http://www.sandallnet.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/EstablishingSalvagePrioritiesGuidelines.pdf>
- Yale University Library Preservation Services. *Collections Prioritization Tool*. <https://guides.library.yale.edu/preservation-services/collectionstool>
- American Red Cross. *Emergency Supply Lists*: <https://www.redcross.org/get-help/how-to-prepare-for-emergencies/survival-kit-supplies.html>

- Oregon Office of Emergency Management. *Disaster Preparedness Publications*. Some are available in Spanish as well as English.  
<https://www.oregon.gov/OEM/hazardsprep/Pages/Preparedness-Publications.aspx>
- From Facilities to Trauma: Disaster Planning and Community Resiliency at Your Library. Webinar from WebJunction – free. <https://www.webjunction.org/events/webjunction/disaster-planning-community-resiliency.html>
- US Ready.Gov. *Resources for Children*. <https://www.ready.gov/kids>
- Librarian’s Disaster Planning and Community Resiliency Guidebook and Workbook.  
[https://www.njstatelib.org/services\\_for\\_libraries/resources/disaster\\_planning/](https://www.njstatelib.org/services_for_libraries/resources/disaster_planning/)
- United States National Library of Medicine. *Disaster Information Management Research Center*.  
<https://disasterinfo.nlm.nih.gov/>
- IFLA. *Disaster Preparedness and Planning: A Brief Manual*. Available in English, French, Spanish, Arabic and Czech. <https://www.ifla.org/publications/node/8068>
- American Library Association. *Library Disaster Preparedness & Response Guide*.  
<https://libguides.ala.org/disaster>
- Pocket Response Plans - Information You Should Always Have With You.  
<https://www.statearchivists.org/programs/emergency-preparedness/emergency-preparedness-resources/pocket-response-plantm-prep-tm-english-template/>